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ER-4-5679-1

OCT 27 1953

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DATE 2008

Dear Larry:

Your two-volume study on German attitudes towards rearmament provides us with some interesting information which we ordinarily do not receive. Too often our intelligence collection element deals with aggregate opinions on this topic without concern for the specific opinions of elite groups which exert marked influence on the implementation of national policies. Consequently Hans Speier's subjective account of the attitudes and personalities of leading German military figures will aid us in reaching conclusions on the future course of German arms.

I thought that the interview with General Heusinger was the most useful to us. The lucidity of his thinking and his moderate approach towards problems--as conveyed by Speier's description--has given us insight into the abilities of this man who is mainly responsible for the organization and staffing of the German defense office. It would certainly appear from this interview that the technical end of the defense office's activities has been entrusted to capable hands. Sodenstern's conception of Russian tactics and strategy was also very interesting, especially since he is so highly regarded by his colleagues.

It would seem to me that it might be worthwhile to repeat this type of project after the staffing of the German contingents to the European army is completed. Such a subjective

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account of the attitudes and personalities of the German commanders in the EBC would be very useful to the Washington intelligence community.

I am very grateful for your sending me the report.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

C. P. Cabell
Lieutenant General, USAF
Deputy Director

OCI/DWM:lec (24 Sep 53)

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(Concurred in
by Mr. Amory, DD/E)

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